Roger Williams University

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THE HAWK'S HERALD

an independent student newspaper

THIS WEEK

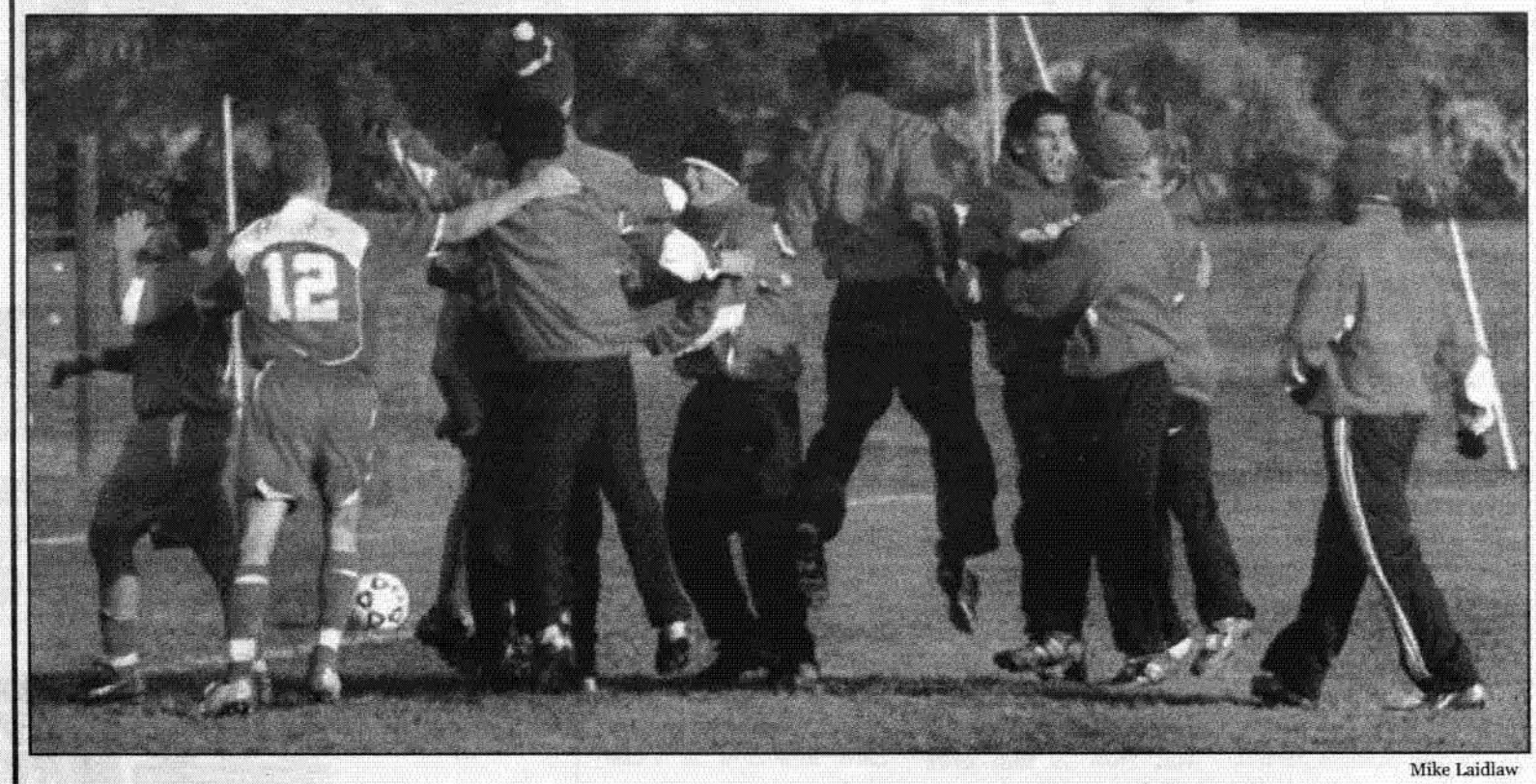


Festival of One-Act plays *pictures page 5*

SPORTS



One Down, Four To Go



Mike Laidlaw

Members of the RWU men's soccer team celebrate the 1-0 victory over Salve Regina in the CCC finals, after capturing their sixth conference championship. The Hawks were successful in the opening round of the NCAA Division III tournament, defeating Western New England College 1-0 at Bayside field. Sean Whalen tallied the lone goal of the game in the second half.

"We knew it would be defensive-oriented," said Coach Jim Cook. "They were all over us in the first 10 minutes but we stayed pretty organized and we scored a brilliant goal... It was just classic."

The win was the second in team history in the NCAA Tournament. RWU will advance to the second round of the tournament on Saturday at 1 p.m. and face St. Lawrence College, the 2002 national champions.

-Christopher Parish (Contributing Writer)

For coverage of the CCC championship game, see page 8

Some Bristol residents feel RWU is taking a free ride

Aubrey Joyce
News Editor

On June 5, 2003, four institutions entered a Memorandum of Understanding in regards to providing financial assistance to the city of Providence.

Johnson and Wales University, Brown University, Providence College and Rhode Island School of Design signed an agreement to make voluntary contributions to the city of Providence, citing the importance of linking the institutions with the city.

The Understanding set forth that over the next 20 years (until June of 2023), the four schools will combine to contribute over $40 million to the state's capital city. In addition, approximately $8.4 million will be paid on properties acquired over the next four years (until June 2007).

The agreement was based upon the recognition that the institutions, like other non-profit organizations such as churches, provide great economic (and non-economic) benefits to the city in which they reside. Nonetheless, the city does provide substantial and costly services to these institutions.

According to Bristol Town Council President Richard Ruggiero, Bristol residents complain because RWU is not taxed. The recent renovation and expansion of buildings, such as the School of Architecture and the Campus Recreation Center, are sore spots within the community. He also noted that President Nirschel's mansion calls attention to the seemingly economic prosperity of the University. Bristol residents observe the growth and are disconcerted by the fact that the University is getting a "free ride" from the town. Places like Almeida Complex, which was formerly taxed-resident housing, was bought by the University and has not been generated into the town for some time.

Ruggiero also noted that there are very traditional people living in Bristol, most of whom dislike change. They watch their rents increase, and believe it is caused by the University's effect on the town.

Ruggiero articulated that various discussions have been taking place that deal with the possible requirement for the University to pay some type of retributive compensation for the services Bristol provides, i.e., emergency services. The concern has been that police response to the University weakens their ability to respond to the community. Emergency rescuers claim they are overtaxed with calls from campus.

One remedy is the town council's proposal that RWU charge each student a set fee for the emergency services used by the students. The number mentioned by Ruggiero was $100 per year, per student, which is equivalent to a lump sum of about $300,000 per year. RWU refused to discuss that option and it was dropped.

One viable option brought up is the development of a private EMS system at RWU. According to the website, RWU's emergency teams include the Emergency Response Team (ERT) and the Emergency Network Information Team (ERNIT). ERT is responsible for formulating plans and directing response to an emergency. ERNIT is responsible for developing recovery plans and providing the campus community with information regarding an emergency situation. In the event of an emergency, these services act as an intermediary between RWU and local authorities and response teams.

Developing its own emergency services would require RWU to train and pay a qualified medical and emergency staff. Some students have expressed concern that this expense would cause tuition to rise. No officers from the Department of Public Safety were available for comment regarding this issue.

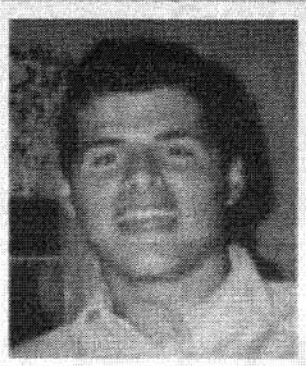
Brown University has had its own EMS since 1978. The service operates 24-hours a day, 365-days a year. Annually, ambulance transport averages 800 runs to the Brown University campus (20,000 people) and the surrounding East Providence community. It is staffed by experienced and paid employees and also includes volunteer student EMTs.

Ruggiero professed hope that the University and town could come to some type of agreement where RWU might be able to contribute to the town without incurring a disproportionate financial burden.

Ruggiero said that the latest offer is that the University could purchase, or maintain, "something" in the town instead of paying a monetary stipend. Ruggiero said that the proposal is a way for the University to "put their name on things and show it is contributing to the town to make up for its lack of paying taxes."

Vice President of the Bristol Town Council David Barboza said, "Roger Williams knows they need to do something, so they are not forced by state law to become equitable." He emphasized that it is not anything the town has against the University, but the impetus is based on what has happened

SEE **SERVICES,** PAGE 3



From Providence, with love

"Why I only take classes with freshmen"

Chris Villano
Contributing Writer

Most college kids consider mid-term and finals week to be the toughest of the semester. But not this guy. Those pale in comparison to the mother of them all: advisement week. And I call it "the mother" for a reason - because I feel like a little baby every time I have to make my schedule, because "Mommy Advisor" doesn't think I'm "growed-up" enough to handle it by myself. I think they should pass out pacifiers and bottles of warm milk (make mine chocolate) during the advisement period so the student body doesn't get as cranky as I am right now.

The advisement *period*. It's a tricky time of the month when an unexpected annoyance plops down into your already hectic circle of life. Frankly, I just don't see the point. I don't know why I need to meet with a professor I don't know (who's not in my major), set up a meeting, and then have *him or her* tell *me* what classes *I* need to take. But I do it anyway. Actually, I do it because I have to. My advisement meetings consist of me putting on the best act I can in order to trick my advisor into unlocking the "hold" on my account in CampusCruiser. Sure, I may agree to take that 8 a.m. calculus class because it "would benefit my growth as a person," but that doesn't mean I'm going to actually sign up for it. (Actually, who am I kidding, the first 50 classes I try to sign up for are always full. I usually end up having to take the classes taught by "Faculty Member." In fact, I never actually took a class that was set up by my advisor).

I'm going to do a little test. I'm going to walk into my kitchen and ask the first roommate I see how his advisement went. Just to make sure it's not only me.

Me: Hey Jimmer, how did your advisement thing go?
Jim: Sucked.
Me: Why?
Jim: Basically my advisor threatened to throw me out of the major.
Me: How is that even possible, you do the most work out of all of us.
Jim: I was supposed to take calculus this summer but working two jobs I couldn't handle it. When I told my advisor I withdrew from it he flipped. So now it's this whole big...
Me: You have to take calculus for construction management! That sucks.

I got all the advisement I needed from my friend at RWU who got here two years before me. I remember he told me who the hardest and easiest teachers were, which classes were good and which ones sucked, that the walk to North Campus is a haul, to wear sandals in the shower, amass as many food delivery menus as possible, which liquor stores accept accepts ridiculously fake/expired IDs, that you can drink in Providence at 18, and to never hook up with chicks on your floor. Honestly, what other advice do you need? Well, I can think of one thing: go to class. I made the Dean's List once I finally started going. They really do lower your grades by half a letter every time you miss more then three, ridiculous!

I'm writing this on Wednesday, I will have registered for classes on Friday, and as of tonight, I haven't met with my advisor yet. I'm glad to see nothing's changed. My plan is to wake up an hour early tomorrow so I can show up to my advisor's door during her office hours (which is only one hour in the morning, four times a week). There I will undoubtedly receive the verbal spanking my numb ass has become accustomed to. Yes, I know I'm a horrible advisee, I should have failed out by now, and all the classes I want will be filled. But if you're going to treat me like a baby and not respect my desire to create my own schedule and accept the mistakes I may make in the process, the least you could do is let me hang out in my crib, sucking my thumb, waiting for the last minute.





Photo by Allisyn Deyo

The Communications Department brought Tala Dowlatshahi, from Reporters Without Borders, to campus on Tuesday, October 26.

A native of Iran, Dowlatshahi spoke to students about the rising frustrations foreign journalists face, citing that more than 1/3 of the world's population lives in a place where there is no press freedom.

"If people cannot know what is happening in their country," she asked, "how can they know what is happening in the world?"

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To contact the Hawk's Herald, email us at *hawksherald@yahoo.com* or call x3229.

Editor's Desk

This message is brought to you by all the friends you made at RWU, who teach you that snorting is imperative when you laugh.

The semester is winding down: five weeks left. It's rather hard to believe the semester flew by at such a rapid pace. Luckily, I have three group projects and two huge papers (one due the Monday after Thanksgiving - seriously professors?) that I must complete before time runs out. Otherwise, if I only had this newspaper to contend with (a solid 20 hour-chunk out of every week I live), whatever would I do with myself? Maybe homework? Sleeping? (When's the last time I did either?)

Ironically enough, as the days are marked off the calendar, I find it hard to remember my first three years here. That's a little scary to actually say out loud, but it's true. We are so wrapped up in life, we forget to look back at every morning in Willow Hall, when we wrote "Good Morning!" on the wipeboards of our floormates. Or the night my Stonewall building had an all-out snowball war that left me sitting on a hill, looking out for "enemies" who gave up long before my extremities numbed.

Well, what do you know? Maybe I do remember some things...

So thanks to 2001's Willow 64 (and 52 and 22) and Stonewall 1 (and 3), for giving me a reason to smile during finals.

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SVA help those in need

Erika Murphy
Human Interest Editor

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect upon the good fortunes and blessings that have been bestowed upon us throughout the year. The Roger Williams University Student Volunteer Association (SVA) has been putting together Thanksgiving Baskets since 1999. The baskets contain non-perishable food items and some paper goods. This is the fourth year that these baskets have been entered into a contest.

Faculty members and campus clubs and organizations are invited to participate in this contest to see which group can come up with the most creative-looking basket. The group with the winning basket receives a gift certificate.

Mrs. Paula Nirschel, wife of President Nirschel, judges the baskets. After the judging is over, the baskets are taken and delivered to needy families in Bristol, or donated to the Bristol Food Bank.

According to K.C. Ferrara, Service Learning Coordinator, forty-one baskets were created last year and forty of them were judged in the contest. This program is a great way to give back to the community and it does not involve much effort.



Google Images

The NDDTTF involves several groups of students and staff who want to bring the holiday spirit to campus. The coalition plans to collect donations to help local families. Meetings for the NDDTTF are Mondays at 5:30 p.m. in the Senate Chambers.

Second annual Tidings Task Force convened

Adam Noska
Contributing Writer

There is nothing quite like a Non-Denominational Tree to lift the children's spirits come holiday season. Thankfully, Roger Williams University is covered in that department.

The Non-Denominational December Tidings Task Force (NDDTTF), now in its second year of inception, is a group of students working with the administration to bring cheer and goodwill to campus throughout the month of December. The goal of the task force is threefold: create an atmosphere on campus to celebrate the holidays, bring together different clubs and organizations and try to do something beneficial for the community.

In 2003, the first year of the NDDTTF, the group met at the request of C. Salvatore Rubertone to address the lack of holiday spirit at the University.

"If you were to walk through campus in December two years ago, there was nothing that would lead you to believe the holidays were here," said Rubertone, senior. "I just wanted a tree and some lights to spruce the place up."

Now, a year after the initial implementation, the Task Force has decided to expand and involve the student population. There are many individuals and groups who are already involved in the process: CEN, WQRI, Senate, ICC, Racquetball Club and Surf Club.

"We hope to turn this into a grandiose and multi-faceted winter festival," says NDDTTF CEO Matthew Taylor. "There is no end to what we can accomplish with many different groups and people working together."

Perhaps most importantly, this is a great opportunity for the campus community to selflessly help the less fortunate during the holidays. Although no specific charity has yet been enumerated by the Task Force, it hopes to collect enough donations to make this holiday truly special for some area family.

If you would like to be a part of this year's Task Force, please email Matt Taylor.

Meetings are Sundays at 5:30 in the Senate Chambers.

Taylor's email address: MatthewTaylor1@gmail.com

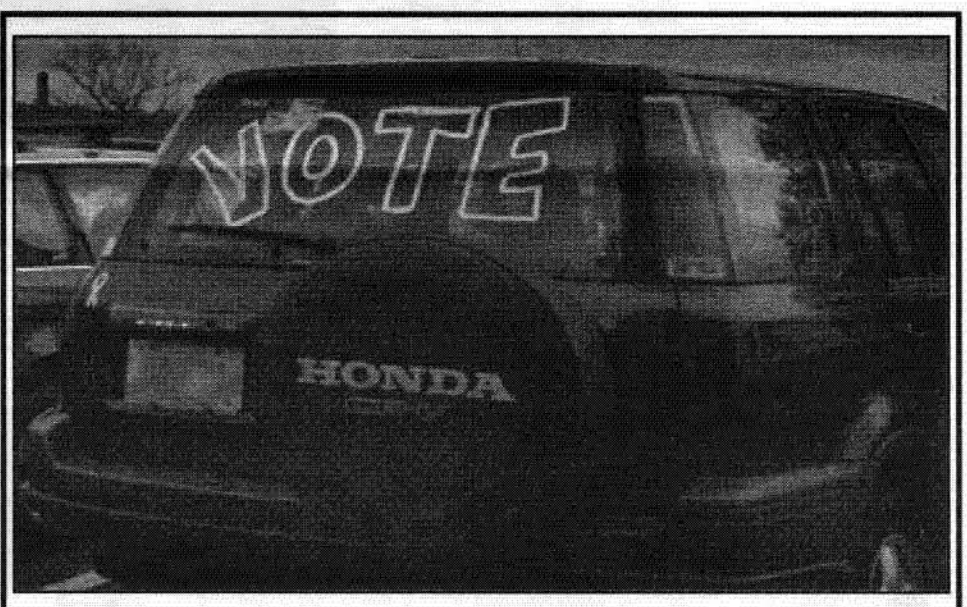
Campus tries to break silence with sexual assault awareness

Sarah Blomberg
Contributing Writer

Whether you followed the footprints of the Red Zone in the Recreation Center, noticed that some of your peers were not speaking on the Day of Silence, or joined one of the many events that was offered, it was difficult not to "be aware" of RWU's sixth-annual Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

The PEERs event, which took place October 8-12, began with the opening of the "Red Zone" display in the Recreation Center and Cedar Hall. The Red Zone refers to the first semester of freshman year, when women are at the greatest risk of sexual assault. This was followed by a safety walk with campus officials, including Chief of Facilities Engineering John J. Tameo. Tuesday was designated as a Day of Silence in support of victims of sexual assault. A self-defense workshop was also offered by the PEERs and the Martial Arts Club and a Candlelight Vigil broke the silence at the end of the day. Wednesday night a "Men Against Sexual Assault" workshop was held in FCAS, and Wednesday through Friday there was a display in the Student

SEE **ASSAULT,** PAGE 7



Laurie Schorr

Did the youth vote matter?

Recent polls show more youth participated in election

Adam Maust
Contributing Writer

On Election Day 2004, the youth voters turned out in droves at polling places, especially in many of the battleground states. The voter turnout and proportion of voters was significantly higher than in the 2000 election, and the youth vote demographic was the only group to vote for the Kerry ticket over the Bush ticket, by a 54 to 44 percent margin.

At least 20.9 percent (all votes have not yet been tallied) of citizens under the age of 30 voted in the 2004 election, which is 4.6 million more than in 2000. Although the 18 percent under-30 turnout is the same as it was in 2000, the total voter turnout was significantly higher. In other words, 18 percent *now* means more votes than 18 percent in 2000.

Once all the figures are out of the way, we realize that the youth vote increased because they were asked to participate. From MTV's *Rock the Vote* to P.Diddy's "Vote or Die" campaign to hundreds of non-profit efforts throughout the country, the youth were asked to vote and they responded affirmatively. Although they chose Kerry (who lost) by a 10 percent margin, they proved themselves to be an engaged and educated generation.

The youth vote mattered and now a lot of politicians (and the President) must begin to address the issues that concern almost one-fifth of those who voted. Their voice is getting louder and gaining attention and credibility - only time will tell if that voice will be heard.

Services

(cont'd. from page 1)

within Bristol (citing the example of Almeida being taken off the tax roles; however, Almeida did once pay taxes to the town). Barboza further stressed the importance of a payment in lieu of the taxes and affirmatively distinguished the difference between taxing the University and requiring them to contribute back to the community in some way.

Linda Arruda, town council member and a small business owner in Bristol, described the discussions between the town and RWU as "fruitful." She believes that the University will make an offer soon, and recognizes the economic contributions made by RWU to the Bristol community.

"Bristol is enhanced by college students. You are the biggest employers of this town," she said.

President Nirschel is expected to bring an offer from the town to RWU's Board of Directors sometime in late November. Bristol town council meetings take place every third Wednesday, and the next meeting is on Nov.17.

Acoustic guitars and lyrical solos bring students together at a packed Expression Session

Aron Chabot
Contributing Writer

It's Thursday night and the Other Place is crawling with a veritable cross-section of the student body, both performers and spectators coming in record numbers amidst the din of the pre-show preparations.

This week's Expression Session kicked off, once again, with a little bit of good advice on dealing with the rampant zombie problem that seemed to have us all on the edge of our seats.

After our informal education, co-host Tony Hollums, senior, decided to do things a little differently.

Hollums, decked out in black desperado regalia, decided to take on the crowd, wielding an acoustic bass. The self-proclaimed "El-Bandito" stunned the crowd by slapping the acoustic monster behind his head, and as the audience sat spellbound, harmonies flew out of the sound hole in rapid-fire fashion.

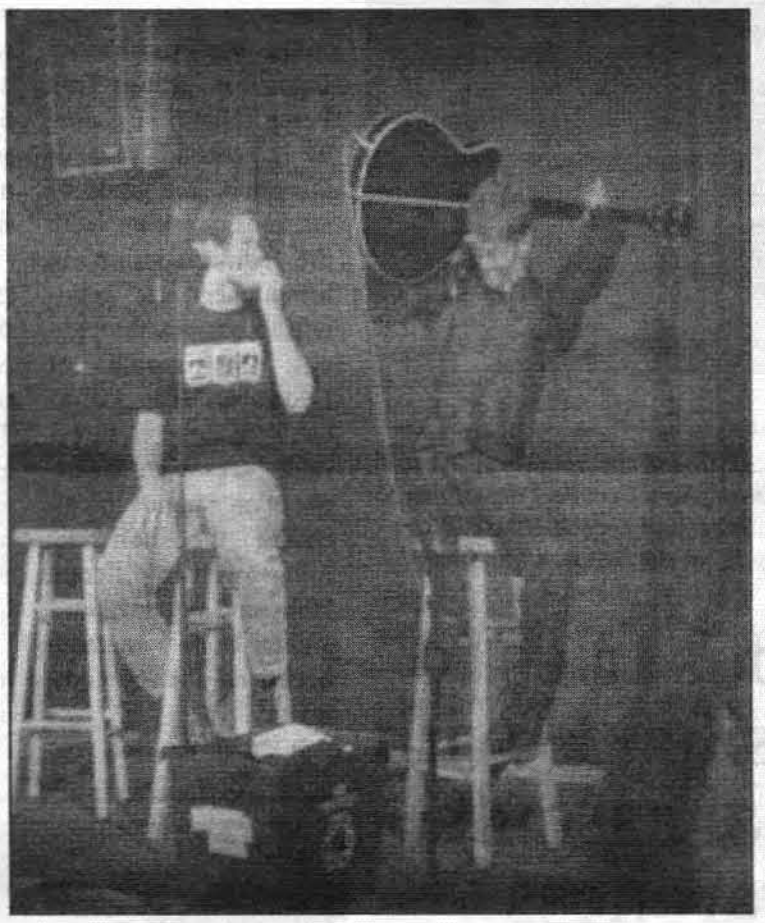
Next out of the gate was "What's the Status?," a regular act that brings variety to the three person-two guitar approach. Status covered everything from Tenacious D to Dave Matthews, displaying remarkable versatility.

It soon became clear that Expression Session could not be considered complete without some incendiary riffs from the metal camp. "Metallica" Mike Zagorski, a senior architecture student, took the stage, complete with a flamed six-string to blast out the latest Megadeth, along with standards like Slayer's "Reign in Blood."

The fist-pumping rhythym of Metallica's "Damage Inc." even inspired Hollums and partner-in-crime Kevin Lisinski to play "Street Fighter" at the foot of the stage, and start mock fighting to Zagorski's whims as he controlled the action with his lightning-fast pick hand.

The night continued as reluctant performer "X" stepped into the spotlight, improvising verse to the slapped backbeats of Hollums and Lisinski, which made way for TJ Sweeny, sophomore, and his acoustic balladry.

Sweeny, singing "If you can love someone like me, there's no end to the possibilities," echoed the hopes and hurts of so many in the audience that night. At this point Lisinski decided that it was time to embrace the limelight and he stepped up, upside-down guitar in hand, to bang out some Kid Rock, before digging in for an emotional rendition of Kansas' "Dust in the Wind."



Aron Chabot

Tony Hollums, right, slaps the acoustic guitar behind his head during a performance at Expression Session, while Kevin Lisinski looks on.

Lisinski's most impressive feat, however, was his original piece about the most classic of cars, the El Camino, singing, "The front is where you sit, the back is where you... duck." Classy and catchy.

He remained on stage for some improvised vocals sung over the somber acoustic stylings of R.A. Rich Degruf, which included everything from more zombie jive to verses from Dylan's "All Along the Watchtower."

As the show began to wind down, we were once again treated to the raw blues of Rich Kuhn. Holding the first guitar he had ever played, Kuhn glided through "Little Wing," Jimi Hendrix's sweeping blues ballad, capping off a six song set that began with a raucous number where Kuhn lamented, "You say you love me baby, please call me on the phone sometime."

Yeah, we've all been there.

As another Thursday night jam session closed, and another week has passed us by, the words of Frank Zappa come to mind, because after all "you only get one chance in life to play a song."

Expression Sessions are held every Thursday at 10 p.m. in the Other Place, located downstairs in the Student Union.

Expression Sessions give students the opportunity to express themselves through music, poetry or any other artistic form.



Fashion Emergency!

Meghan Rothschild
Contributing Writer

Yes ladies and gents, I'm back to tell you some more fashion crimes occurring on campus, but first I shall respond to those few of you who found me offensive in my previous article: I am sorry. Sorry that you were offended by a joke, and I'm sorry that you can't handle criticism.

Some may ask, "Who are *you* to judge people's styles?" Who am I? Consider me your best friend. When you leave your dorm Friday night, ask your roommate if your butt looks big in those pants. She'll say "no," I'll say "yes." I am simply pointing out what everyone else is thinking. But I digress.

Now that winter is beginning and there's a chill in the air, it's time for stylish sweaters! How lovely.

Unfortunately, I have seen some great sweaters paired with some not-so-great accessories. Please women *and* men if you're going to dress up your top half, pay a little attention to the bottom half.

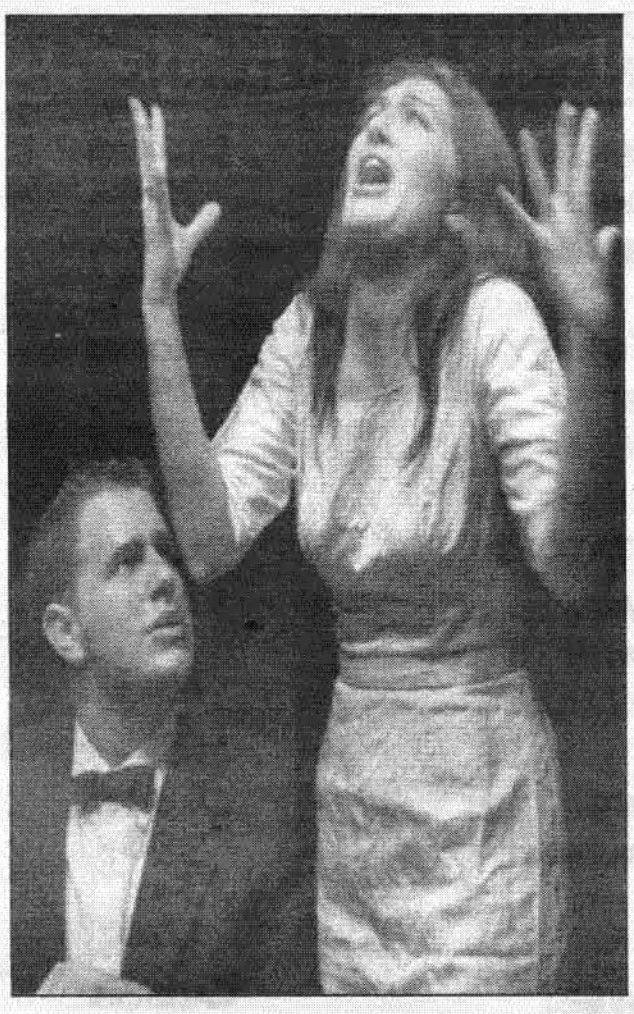
I feel as though people are taking time and care to pick out their sweaters and then forget what the hell they're doing for the rest of their bodies.

Your best sweater plus your dirtiest sweatpants plus your oldest gym sneakers equals what the hell were you thinking? Don't get me wrong, I have NO problem dressing down. I do it all the time. But please pick one, or the other, and stop interchanging two styles that don't mesh.

Secondly, I'd like to have a chat about neon colors. I remember loving them in fourth grade and making sure each picture I colored was fluorescent green and orange. But shoes in these colors? Not so much.

I recently saw a girl wearing neon pink, pleather (yes, not even real leather) knee-high boots. Oh wait: they were pointy-toed as well. I must tell you, it's suggestive. Pointy shoes are fine. Knee high boots are fine. *Even* pleather boots are fine. But pointy, pleather, knee-high boots? NOT FINE.

So burn them quickly, before someone asks for your rates.







"A Festival of One-Act Plays"

October 29, 2004

Photos by Daniel Ruth





Coming to Bristol!
November 2004

Green River
SILVER CO.
Fine Sterling Silver Jewelry

297 Hope Street, Bristol, RI
Shop www.greenriversilver.com

Award-winning author shows poetry is alive

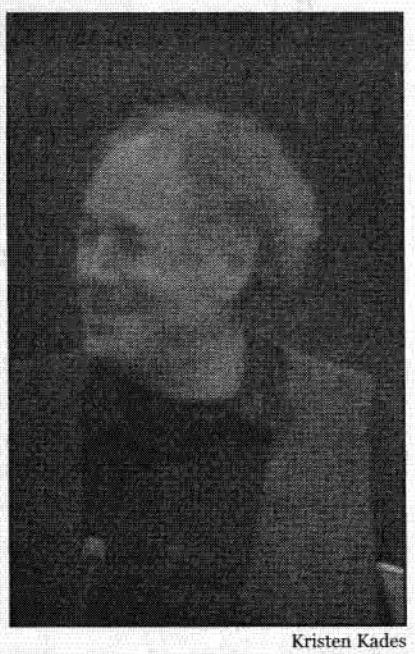
Kristen Kades
Contributing Writer

With his deep, vibrating voice, visiting writer Stuart Dischell captivated students and staff as he passionately read several poems on Tuesday, November 9.

Renee Soto, a professor of creative writing at RWU, as well as a friend and Dischell's former student, gave an enthusiastic introduction inside the Law School Appellate Courtroom. Soto reflected upon his stinging words that influenced her after she left his classroom, "poetry is alive… ."

Dischell is a professor at the University of North Carolina. He is the author of *Good Hope Road* and *Evenings & Avenues* and has won numerous awards from National Poetry Series, the National Endowment for the Arts and North Carolina Arts Council, as well as receiving the Push Cart Prize.

There were about fifty students and faculty listening as Dischell shared his work. He read his favorites and also took requests when he realized how many students owned his book, *Dig Safe.*



Kristen Kades

Visiting writer and poet Stuart Dischell.

After he read, an audience member asked why he didn't write about politics. Dischell responded, "There is nothing more political than the relationship between two people." Another question was, "At what time of the day do you feel that it is best for you to write?" After several comical remarks, he concluded that in the morning, when nothing has affected or influenced him, was the best time to write.

With his witty attitude and appreciative comments, Dischell very inviting and put great feeling into all that he read.

Turkey and its trimmings not meant to be substituted

Heather Kordula
Science Editor

Thanksgiving. It's just around the corner. Soon it will be time for turkey, stuffing and pumpkin pie. But with all these new diet fads, will people be able to enjoy the real deal? Or will it be a no-carb, sugar-free kind of Thanksgiving?

As a girl, I consider diets every now and then (that's not to say guys don't - I know plenty who do). Anyway, when a new trend starts, I may think about it. (Notice how I said think and not actually try.)

But Thanksgiving is a meal that needs to be enjoyed and no substitute will do. I mean the whole holiday is centered around the meal. That's what Thanksgiving is about: eating.

However, I like to consider myself an open-minded person and I thought I would check out the option of a healthy, low-carb Thanksgiving. The following are some of the things I found.

Baked-outside-of-the-bird-breadless-stuffing: who wants baked-outside-of-the-bird, no-bread-stuffing. I mean correct me if I'm wrong, but stuffing is bread. The bread is the essence of the stuffing. And stuffing cannot be without its essence.

Cauliflower mashed potatoes: what is this idea about mashed cauliflower tasting just like real mashed potatoes? Cauliflower is not a potato. If someone stuck a plate of steamed, mashed-up cauliflower in front of my face, I would run screaming.

Sugar-free, no crust pie: I don't think I need to say anything about that.

Now I don't want everyone to get the wrong idea. There is nothing wrong with being healthy. I just think there should be some moderation.

There are ways to have a healthier Thanksgiving without having to give up the good parts or going totally low carb. Simply eating less for instance. Now there's a concept.

It is a real misconception that Thanksgiving is a day when you will gain pounds and pounds. Turkey is actually low fat if cooked in the correct way, and many of the side dishes can be as well. You can serve fewer appetizers or you could substitute cut-up vegetables for chips and crackers.

Also, make lighter sauces instead of heavy, cream-based ones. Have a mix of starchy sides with vegetable sides so people can choose, *and* you can serve the vegetables steamed, instead of au gratin.

You can also serve a fruit dessert along with the pies and cookies.

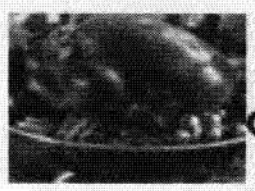
However, keep in mind that those of us who are not as concerned about having a low-fat diet may not appreciate the reduced fat dishes. Offer alternatives such as salad dressing on the side, or both rich and light potatoes.

It is my opinion that there are four dishes that should not be messed with: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and pumpkin pie. They are part of the tradition of Thanksgiving and should be eaten in all of their fattening glory.

So as I gather this year with friends and family around my Thanksgiving Day table, I will be giving thanks for having a roof over my head, good friends and a carb-filled meal.

Thanksgiving Returns

Appetizers
2 ounces cheese
8 crackers
Calories 294
Fat 21.4



Roasted Turkey
3 ounces
White and dark meat
Calories 254
Fat 19.8

Mashed Potatoes
and Gravy
Mashed with
Butter and Milk



Calories 333
Fat 25.3

Stuffing
Cornbread stuffing
Calories 358
Fat 17.6

Glazed Sweet Potatoes
With butter
and brown sugar



Calories 369
Fat 23

Green Beans
with cream of
mushroom soup
and french fried onions
Calories 240
Fat 15.6

Pumpkin Pie
Traditional recipe



Calories 299
Fat 13

clevelandclinic.org

New England will see a cold, early winter this year

Heather Kordula
Science Editor

This was the first week temperatures have dropped below 30 degrees, and everyone felt the cold. Even though the first day of winter isn't until December 21, fall seems very far away.

The AccuWeather.com Winter Storm Center recently released its 2004-2005 Winter Forecast. And, unfortunately for all the warm-weather addicts, it is highlighted by colder-than-normal temperatures expected in the Northeast.

The AccuWeather.com Winter Storm Center meteorologists are predicting that winter will arrive early this season, and the temperatures will be at least two degrees below normal in areas across the United States. Lower temperatures mean one major weather pattern in the winter: snow.

Snowstorms occur in New England when a warm, moist mass of air spinning counterclockwise (a low-pressure system) moving up from the south meets a mass of cold dry air swirling clockwise (a high-pressure system) moving down from the north. If the cold air mass moves into a warm mass, it slips under the warm, moist air, pushing the warmer air to a colder altitude where it condenses to snow and falls to the earth.

AccuWeather meteorologists also say that it is hard to predict snowfalls for a season because one significant storm can alter the total amount of snow in that area for the whole season.

The AccuWeather.com Winter Storm Center is a group of expert meteorologists who help predict and analyze weather conditions. The Center informs the public about upcoming winter advisories, and gives Internet surfers information about the history, causes and effects of winter weather.

AccuWeather.com provides information about weather forensics (such as lightning), satellite and radar images and a free desktop weather guide

Student Senate

Meetings are held every Monday at 6:30 pm in the Student Senate Chambers (Located on the second floor of the Recreation Center).

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE

We Govern Your Body



Dear Meg and Ash

For the past month, I've been spending a lot of time with this guy and I think he is so cute. A couple of weeks ago we were joking around and he kissed me and... Well, things got a little out of hand. I know he has been with a lot of girls on campus so I have been thinking maybe I could have contracted an STD. Where do I go to find out?

Made a mistake in Maple

Mistake in Maple:

We are assuming that you are experiencing some symptoms of STDs. These include, but are not limited to: losing patches of hair, losing eyebrows or developing a rash on the body (syphilis). Men and women with gonorrhea often complain of a discharge, frequent urination or burning when they urinate. The symptom of both types of herpes is a group of small sores or blisters that cannot always be seen. Regardless of what your symptoms are, you need to make an appointment at Health Services. You will meet with a professional nurse so there is no need to be embarrassed. Also, everything you discuss will remain confidential. Most STDs are treatable. After you do this, the next step is to speak to this boy. He may be a carrier of this STD and not even realize it. If he does know and neglected to tell you, get the hell away from him... God only knows what else he's lying to you about.

Meg and Ash,

My boyfriend and I have been dating since high school. We have a very loving relationship and have always been open with each other and I trust him completely. The thing is he is going to play professional sports next year. He will be drafted high, and I'm afraid that at his school (which I do not like because it is on the top-ten party list) the other players in his sport will be a bad influence when he gets drafted. Most specifically, I am worried other girls will make him sleep with them or make him touch them inappropriately and he will not be able to stop it from happening. I am worried that he will contract an STD and neglect to tell me about it. Should I transfer to make sure he stays safe? Should I move to his city when he gets drafted so that the girls won't do bad things to him? Please help me!

Concerned Girlfriend

Concerned Girlfriend:

Here at Ask Meg and Ash we feel that people are responsible for their own actions. If you're having thoughts that girls will "make" your boyfriend sleep with them, perhaps you need to take a serious look at your relationship. Of course you should not move to the city! You are not this boy's babysitter, you are his girlfriend! If he truly cares about you he won't need to be "watched." You should have confidence in him to remain faithful. As for the STD, again if you actually have this fear then re-evaluate the situation. It's obvious you do not trust your boyfriend and this will most definitely be the downfall of the relationship. You're not in this to be a mother (which we fear that may be what you want), you're the girlfriend, and if your boyfriend needs surveillance, tell him to grow up and get out while you still can.

Keep those emails coming! askmeg_ash@hotmail.com



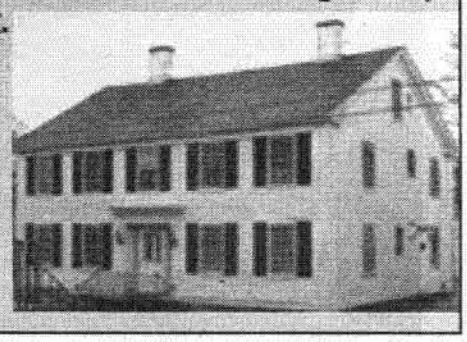
Attention International Students

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Assault

(cont'd. from page 3)

Union, including ribbons, the Clothesline Project (a display of T-shirts created by victims of sexual assault) and poems, stories and artwork from members of the campus community.

According to Nancy Hood, Director of the PEER program, Sexual Assault Awareness Week is an effort to raise awareness about what sexual assault is, what consent is, where to go for help, what to do if it happens to you and what effects it has on the victims as well as on their families and friends.

"This program is important because, unfortunately, it is very common on college campuses," said Hood. One in four college-aged women and one in ten men will be victims of sexual assault each year. The RWU PEER program started the Sexual Assault Awareness Week in November, in addition to the national Sexual Assault Awareness Month that falls in April, because it is the most serious, prevalent crime on college campuses and needs to be addressed more than once a year.

Hood believes that the PEERs are making a difference through this program. "I think our campus leaders have become more aware of the importance of this issue, as well as more concerned with heightening awareness on campus, and it certainly educates people who are open to it." Although results are not always easy to measure, Hood says "in small numbers it makes a difference, bit by bit."

This is the third year that Laura Carpentier has been involved in the program with the PEERs. "The 'Are You Aware' theme that we have used the past couple of years is a proactive way to get people to take care of themselves and help to take care of other people," she said. "This is the program that everyone remembers at the end of the year."

Carpentier hopes that students will take this issue seriously, noting that, "people don't think about it but it could happen to them, we've already had at least six sexual assaults on campus this semester. Sexual Assault Awareness Week will hopefully help them to realize they're not alone."

Second-year PEER Amanda Theroux says she has witnessed a clear divide between students who are receptive to, and concerned with, the issue of sexual assault, and students who make fun of the PEERs efforts to educate the campus community.

"It's just the way it is when you're in college," said Theroux, in reference to some students' crude remarks and the defacing of the "Be Aware" statistics that PEERs wrote on the dorm bathroom mirrors. "It's so disheartening to see when you have to live with it."

While it is clearly impossible to impact every student's view on this issue, visible results of the PEERs efforts came from the Safety Walk. These concerns included burnt-out lights, dark areas in need of lighting, a sidewalk between the North Campus and the Paolino parking lot, rough paths, and areas that need additional blue lights/call boxes.

Now that the displays are out of sight, students cannot put this issue out of mind. The United States has the highest rape rate of the countries that publish such statistics, and unfortunately, a large percentage of sexual assaults occur to men and women between the ages of 18 and 24. Ninety percent of these cases also involve drugs or alcohol.

In the words of poet Suzanne Nichols, "sticks and stones are hard on bones, aimed with angry art, words can sting like anything, but silence breaks the heart."

Twice as Nice

Men's soccer finishes off Salve for CCC crown, earns bid to NCAA

Tim Mannion
Sports Editor

More than a month has passed since the RWU men's soccer team was down 1-0 at the hands of a then-superior Salve Regina University team. The only thing the Hawks walked away with that day, beside an "L" in the column, was the bitter taste of heartbreak. However, like most great teams, the Hawks reveled in their newfound doom. They reeled off seven straight wins while staying on the path to the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) championship. The final touch came Saturday as the Hawks defeated Salve 1-0 and captured the crown.

From the opening whistle, a steady breeze blew off the nearby water. It was a tale of two halves, and each team received help from good ol' Mr. Wind. The Hawks started the game kicking away from the wind and it worked to their advantage as they challenged the Salve goalie with several shot attempts. But the opportunities were just that - opportunities. The Hawks were unable to piece together a string of passes and pull off a shot (like they've done all season) and it definitely showed on the scoreboard - 0-0 at the half.

The second half was a completely different story. That bitter taste began to settle in and the Hawks wanted to spit it out. Battling the wind, RWU controlled the ball and Salve rarely had an opportunity to challenge goalie Kevin Deegan and the Hawks' defense.

"The first half we had the wind but it totally messed us up. We played 100 percent better going into the wind. I told the team at halftime this game is ours, pick your heads up," said RWU Head Coach Jim Cook.

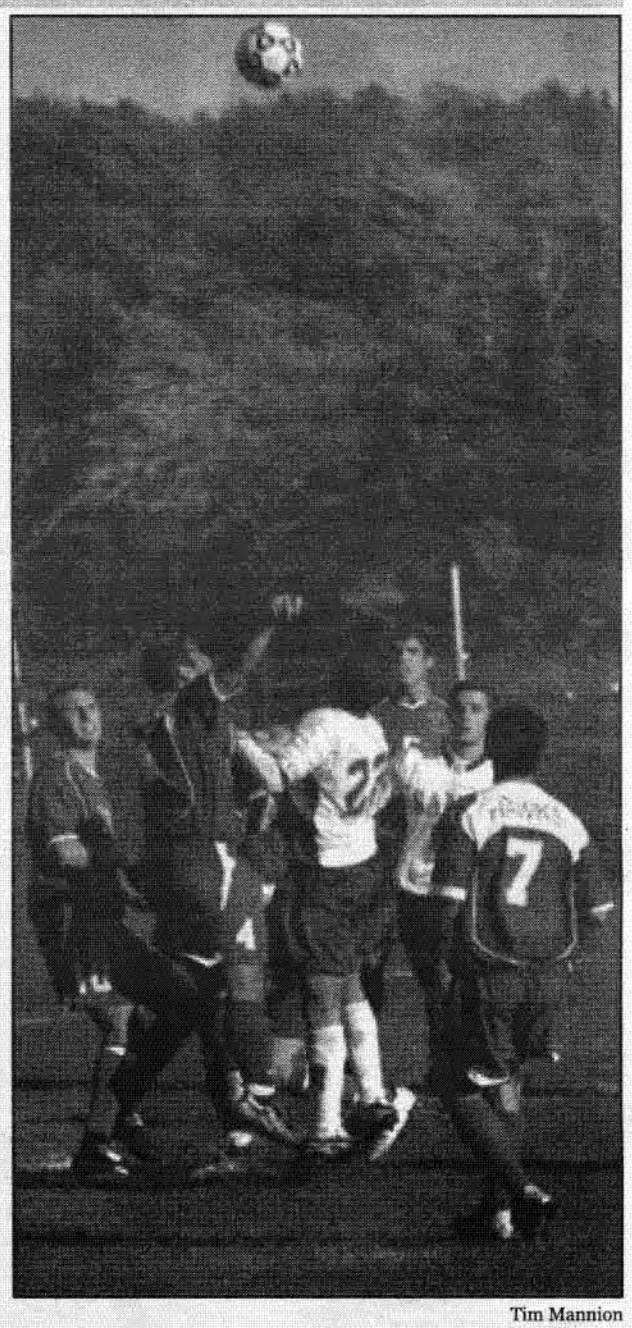
The Hawks finally got on the board when Sean Whalen, senior and second team all-conference midfielder, broke the scoreless tie in the 58th minute with the game's lone goal, assisted by CCC Rookie of the Year, Nate Boucher.

The Hawks' defense let scoring chances enter their zone late in the second half, but Deegan was the "coolest cat" on the field, and appeared to relish the opportunity to seal the championship for RWU.

The win moved the Hawks to a 14-4 season-ending record, with most of the wins coming from games where the mixture of young freshmen (a total of nine are on the team), and savvy seniors manufactured the scoring opportunites in order for the team to win.

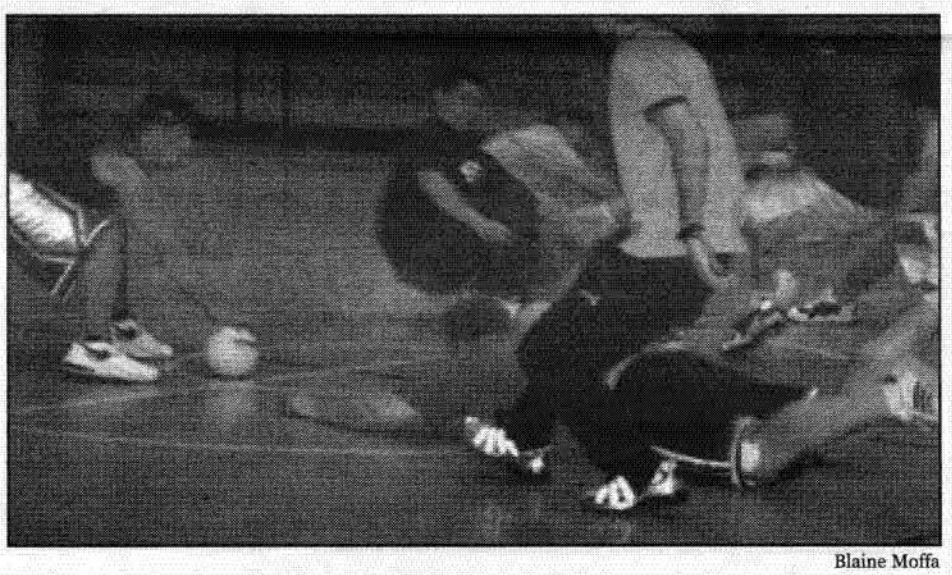
"The four seniors have been fantastic. The whole team looks up to them. Then to have some freshmen and sophomores come in, like Boucher, and also Montgomery coming into his own in the second half of the season. Unbelievable," added Cook.

With the conference win, RWU earned a bid to the NCAA tournament, their fourth appearance in the last six years.



Tim Mannion

A swarm of Hawk defenders await a jump ball.



Blaine Moffa

RWU students dive for dodgeballs during an intramural game. The popularity of the sport has spawned 20 teams this semester.

Dodgeball a huge hit

Intramural sport gains popularity

Bonnie Savage
Contributing Writer

According to Jack Nicholson in the recent film, *Dodgeball*, "Dodgeball is a sport of violence, exclusion and degradation."

At RWU, however, the game has taken on a somewhat friendlier tone and has brought students together in what has proven a great success in intramural sports.

Twenty different dodgeball teams have been formed, each consisting of at least six people, but there are more in most cases. The teams are divided up into two leagues, East and West. At the end of the season, a championship round will crown one team "Dodgeball Champions."

"I enjoyed playing dodgeball in high school, and it seemed like a fun thing to do as a team with my friends," said freshman Mark Granger. When asked if he would participate again next year, given the opportunity, he said, "Yeah, I definitely will. It's a good time, and it forces me to do at least some exercise."

Jon Sanford, sophomore, of team Ownage, said, "It's a good time. It's fun to get all amped about a game, and a good way to meet some new people."

Dodgeball, which was formerly an option for intramural sports, has come back into play. Hopefully, the sport's overwhelming success will continue to bring it back in the future.

Get in touch with the Rec Center staff on how to join next semester.

Sugar, spice and everything rugby

Kaitlin Evans
Contributing Writer

On a cold Sunday morning, I got up much too early for a weekend, and ventured out to the women's rugby team's practice. Of course, I couldn't have picked a colder day to do it. When I got there, the girls were just starting to warm-up. They ran a few laps, passing the ball, while the coach's giant Rottweiler happily trailed along behind them. A few stragglers wandered in with the clock's chime, just a few minutes late. New to RWU this year, the women's rugby team has thirteen players, assisted by five coaches and men's rugby team players.

I was introduced to the president, Danielle Simon, who was eager to play in the upcoming season next semester.

"The team is great! We work well together and the coaches and men's players help out a lot. We already have an unofficial slogan, 'We bust ours to kick yours!'" she said.

I couldn't believe some of the girls were only in shorts and a sweatshirt, but I soon found out they didn't even need the layers as they started to play. The coaches worked them hard. Their first drill also served as a meet-and-greet, teaching the girls to call the ball to each other while they learned their new teammates' names. Next they got a little more up close and personal, by practicing running at each other and tackling.

"Run low, run hard!" the coaches yelled from the sidelines. "Ladies, you got to be a little nutty to play this game!"

Not only were they throwing each other to the ground, but they each had to carry a teammate on their back across the entire length of Nike field (definitely not my idea of fun, but I know to never mess with a women's rugby player). The team divided in half so the girls could focus on their newly-appointed positions. One group practiced more passing skills and they learned how to throw a player up in the air (almost like a cheerleading mount) in order to gain possession of the ball. The other group practiced passing and kicking.

"No dropped balls ladies! You drop a ball, we all do ten pushups," Mike Copeley, one of the coaches, drilled into their heads.

It sounded like great motivation to not drop the ball, and the girls did not let him down. Toward the end of practice, they played a quick scrimmage, then called it quits for the day.

"I'm really impressed ladies," called one of the coaches, as they walked off the field. "I really am."

If you are interested in joining the team, you can contact Danielle Simon.

email: dsimon958@rwu.edu.